

CITY OF ALAMEDA

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: Lisa Goldman
Acting City Manager

Date: May 17, 2011

Re: Adopt Specifications and Authorize Call for Bids for Three Parking
Enforcement Vehicles

BACKGROUND

The Public Works Department is responsible for the Managed Vehicle and Equipment (fleet) Replacement Program. On May 2, 2006, the City Council adopted Resolution 13951 establishing guiding principles for the management of the City's fleet vehicles and equipment. The replacement program is based on the City's fleet replacement criteria, which consider the useful life of vehicles and equipment in terms of age, mileage (or hours), and usage. Vehicles and equipment scheduled for replacement are also reviewed and analyzed for safety history and operating performance to determine if it is appropriate to replace a vehicle or piece of equipment at a later date. In addition, vehicles and equipment are reviewed to determine if the minimum use guidelines have been met. Although the Police Department's FY10-11 budget did not include the replacement of three parking enforcement vehicles, there are sufficient funds in the department's 09-10 State COPS Grant to cover the purchase.

DISCUSSION

The Traffic Section of the Police Department currently utilizes three GO-4 Interceptor II vehicles for parking enforcement. Two of these vehicles were manufactured in 2002 and the third in 2000. Over the past year, all three vehicles have had major repair issues, and one has been taken out of service permanently. There is often a long wait time for repairs due to parts not being readily available as they must be ordered from Canada and shipped internationally. Because of this, it has not been uncommon for all three vehicles to be in the City Garage at the same time. The current cost to replace a single GO-4 Interceptor II, including purchase price, tax, delivery, and safety equipment, is approximately \$27,000.

Although the GO-4 offers unique features, such as right side exiting, sliding side doors used for chalking vehicles, and a three-wheeled frame for improved maneuvering on narrow streets and in parking lots, Traffic Section personnel have looked at a number of other options for replacement. The Public Works Department provided several different electric vehicles for test driving purposes; however, none of these vehicles had an effective range for parking enforcement in Alameda. The vehicles tested had a top speed of 25 MPH and a range of 30-40 miles on a single charge. The cost of the electric vehicles tested ranged from \$20,000 to \$25,000. Also considered was the Ford Escape Hybrid, which several East Bay cities are currently using for parking enforcement. The Ford Escape Hybrid is available through the State of California Fleet Management System; however, the price is currently over \$31,000.

Another vehicle being used for parking enforcement by law enforcement agencies throughout the country, including the Menlo Park Police Department, is the Smart car. The Smart Fortwo is a fuel efficient (33 MPG city/41 MPG highway) two-seat, gasoline powered vehicle with no limitations on speed or range. It is certified for its low air pollutant and green house gas scores by the EPA and is manufactured with 95% recyclable materials. The small size and compact turning radius would allow for the maneuverability necessary for parking enforcement duties. The current price for these vehicles, including tax, is under \$15,000, making them the most economical choice of all the vehicles tested.

Based on the above considerations, City staff seeks approval to adopt specifications and authorize calling for bids for three Smart Fortwo vehicles. Specifications for the Smart Fortwo (base model) are attached. The replaced GO-4 vehicles will be taken out of the fleet inventory, sold at auction and revenues returned to the fleet replacement fund in accordance with Resolution No. 13951.

With City Council authorization, the City Clerk will publish a public notice announcing the open bid. Bids proposals will be received until 2:00 P.M. on Friday, June 10, 2011.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The cost for the three vehicles, approximately \$45,000, was not included in the FY10-11 managed vehicle replacement program fund; however, there are sufficient funds in the 09-10 State COPS Grant (Fund 218.10) to cover the purchase. Whenever possible, existing safety equipment will be reused.

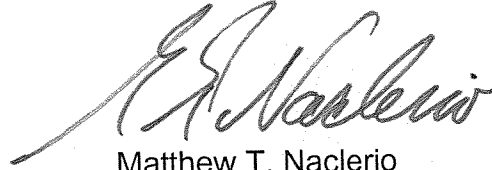
RECOMMENDATION

Adopt specifications and authorize Call for Bids for three parking enforcement vehicles.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael C. Noonan
Interim Chief of Police



Matthew T. Naclerio
Public Works Director

Approved as to funds and account,



Fred Marsh
Controller

Exhibit:

1. Specifications for parking enforcement vehicle purchase

SPECIFICATIONS FOR PARKING ENFORCEMENT VEHICLE PURCHASE

The City of Alameda is seeking proposals for the purchase of three new **2011 Smart Fortwo vehicles** including all standard equipment and the following options:

Description
Pure Coupe standard features
Air Conditioning with Automatic Temperature Control
Power Steering
Smart Entryline Radio
Crystal White Exterior with Black Tridion Safety Cell
Plain Black Interior

EXTENDED WARRANTY

Extended Warranty for at least 5 years/75,000 miles, to be included with purchase price. Dealer will be responsible for registering the vehicles as Exempt vehicles with the Department of Motor Vehicles and have the plates sent or delivered directly to the Police Department.

VENDOR DELIVERY DATE:

Vehicles must be delivered within thirty days of award of contract.